

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6574

BILL NUMBER: HB 1085

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 21, 2007

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Whistle Stop Signs.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Kersey

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill: (1) requires a railroad company to erect and maintain a sign at least 1/4 mile in advance of a crossing (except a crossing subject to a local whistle ban) to notify the operator of the engine to sound the locomotive's whistle and ring the bell.

(2) provides that a railroad company that violates this requirement is liable to the state for a penalty of at least \$250 but not more than \$5,000 to be recovered in a civil action brought by the state in the circuit or superior court of any county where the crossing is located; and

(3) makes technical changes.

Effective Date: July 1, 2008.

Explanation of State Expenditures: Providing for a civil action brought by the state for violation of these provisions may increase the work load of the Attorney General's office. Any additional expenditures will depend upon the number of such cases and the resources required to pursue the case. The fund affected is the state General Fund.

Explanation of State Revenues: Providing for a penalty of at least \$250, but not more than \$5,000, may mean additional revenues for the state, depending on the number of violations which occur and the penalty assigned to the violation. The fund affected is the Common School Fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Transportation; Attorney General.

Local Agencies Affected: Circuit or superior courts.

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: James Sperlik, 317-232-9866.